

# Victoria Daily Times.

VOL. 30.

VICTORIA, B.C., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1899.

NO. 48.

## The War in Africa.

See the display of  
Diamonds in our  
windows, which  
we are offering at  
the old prices.....

If it should not result in an absolute suspension of diamond mining, will probably render the scarcity of desirable goods more serious, and still further increase the prices.

Nothing could be more certain than that prices will not be lower. Nothing can be gained and much may be lost by delaying purchases for Holiday requirements. Impartial assortment and much higher prices will, no doubt, be the rule later.

The above is a clipping from the New York Jeweler's Weekly of Oct. 18th.

Challoner & Mitchell, JEWELLERS, 47 Government St.

## The Westside

70 GOVERNMENT STREET.

### FOR TWO DAYS MONDAY AND TUESDAY

We will offer all Remnants of Blouse and Fancy Silks at 25c per yard.

Our 50-inch Habit Cloth, in all the newest colorings at 50c per yard.

REMNANTS! REMNANTS! Especially the Dress Remnants will be offered Monday and Tuesday at Nominal Prices.

The Hutcheson Co., Ltd.

## Queer Queries.

WHAT NOISE ANNOYS AN OYSTER? A NOISY NOISE ANNOYS AN OYSTER.

We have the always reliable

Eagle Brand of Morgan's Frozen Oysters

Arriving FRESH every Steamer

SHells..... 40c Doz

Quart Tins..... 75c each

Manitoba Creamery Butter..... 25c lb

Manitoba Dairy Butter..... 20c lb

Johnson's Fluid Beef 1 lb bottle..... 51

DIXI H. ROSS & CO.

### Demanding the Best.....

The most progressive builders demand the best hardware for their work. The most intelligent come to us. They know we give them the best goods and make the prices right for them. They are satisfied that we do better for them than any other dealer and are glad to show they value our methods by coming to us.

Nicholles & Renouf, Ltd.

Cor. Yates and Broad Streets,  
Victoria, B.C.

## Picture Frames

OF ALL KINDS IN STOCK AND MADE TO ORDER  
AT LOWEST PRICES.

J. W. MELLOR, 76-78 FORT ST.

Broken  
Sweet  
Cakes

FOR A FEW DAYS

AT

M. R. SMITH & CO.'S

57 FORT STREET.

WILLIAM F. BEST  
ASSAYER AND  
ANALYST  
(Heidelberg and Leipzig). Late  
Analyst for the Province of B.C.  
Brunswick, Office 28 Broad Street,  
opposite Dr. D. Hotel, Victoria.

Lee & Fraser,  
Real Estate and Insurance Agents

\$3,200 WILL PURCHASE one of the finest cottages in James Bay - 7 rooms, brick foundation, hot and cold water, heated by furnace and radiators, electric light, in splendid condition, lot 50x166.

\$2,200 NINE-ROOMED BRICK HOUSE, with modern conveniences - a snap

9 and 11 Trounce Ave., Victoria, B.C.

## FARM FOR SALE--CHEAP

500 ACRES in plots to suit. 100 acres under cultivation. Easy terms. Apply to A. GLENDENNING, on the premises, or B.C. LAND & INVESTMENT AGENCY, LIMITED.

### Bargains in Property This Week.

5 roomed house on North Park street, cheap.  
6 roomed modern cottage, Harrison street, with stable, etc. Look this up if you want a home. Cottages on Fernwood road from \$650 upwards.  
9 roomed modern house, Richmond avenue, a bargain.  
Lot and cottage, Johnson street, \$450.  
Cottage, Oak Bay avenue, only \$450.  
Other lots are also offered on Belmont Avenue.  
The estate of B. W. Pearce, Esq., selling fast. Secure one before they are all gone.  
Easy terms.  
Several houses to let from \$5 upwards.  
When requiring COAL or WOOD, or if you wish to dispose of your property quick, call on

P. C. MACGREGOR,  
Real estate and Fire Insurance Agent,  
22 Government Street.

Canada Life  
Assurance Company

ESTABLISHED 1847  
GIVES LARGEST PROFITS AND

Maximum security for minimum cost.  
Assurances in force over \$75,000,000.

A. W. JONES, AGENT,  
28 Fort St.

F. G. Richards & Co  
Real Estate, Financial and  
Insurance Agents,

NO. 15 BROAD STREET

We are offering bargains in residence, residential sites for building, business properties and farms in the city. Please call and terms easy. Inspect our lists before purchasing elsewhere. It will pay you.

General agents Phoenix Fire of Hartford.

Money to loan in sums to suit, at low rates of interest.

Notaries Public and Conveyancers.

NEW VICTORIA COAL CO., LTD.

NANAIMO, B.C.

SAMUEL M. ROBINS, SUPERINTENDENT.

Coal Mined by White Labor.

New Wellington Coal

Washed Nuts... \$4.25 per ton

Sack and Lumps, \$5.50 per ton

Delivered to any part of the city.

KINGHAM & CO.,

44 Fort Street.

J. E. CHURCH, J. C. V. SPRATT,

Trounce Avenue. Yates and Store Sts.

MUNN, HOLLAND & CO.,

Cor. Broad Street and Trounce Avenue.

Telephone Call 647.

Wharf-Store Street, Spratt's Wharf.

W. JONES

AUCTIONEER,

THE CITY AUCTION MART, 73 and 73a, YATES ST.

Auction sales conducted in all parts; high prices obtained; satisfaction guaranteed.

REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT.—For sale, hotel in Vancouver, fully furnished, with complete outfit of the city, for cash.

WANTED TO PURCHASE—Small house near central part of the city, for cash.

Business with stock in it, \$2,500, dry goods or groceries preferred.

WANTED—Furnished, also unfurnished, houses to rent; good clients waiting.

MONIES TO LOAN—Private funds. Open evenings.

WET WEATHER FOOTWEAR

RUBBER = SOLE BOOTS

FOR LADIES AND GENTS.

JUST IN

Ladies' Cotskin (water-

proof) Laced Boot (Ameri-

can).

Ladies' Chrome Kid-lined

(waterproof) Lac'd Boots

(American).

Sizes 5 to 7. Widths A to E

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

STEEL-CLAD SCHOOL BOOTS

ARE UNQUELLED.

The Paterson Shoe Co., Ltd.

35 Johnson Street.

## A BRITISH DISASTER

Royal Irish Fusiliers, the Gloucester-shire Regiment and a Mountain Battery Surrounded.

## THEY CAPITULATED AFTER HEAVY SLAUGHTER

Two Thousand Men and Forty-two Officers Are Now Prisoners—British Loss Is Unknown.

## ANOTHER BATTLE NOW IN PROGRESS

White May Retire to Pietermaritzburg—Second Army Corps Ordered to Be in Readiness—Commander in Natal Accepts Responsibility.

(Associated Press.)

London, Oct. 31.—The war office has received a dispatch from General White, commanding the British forces at Ladysmith, reporting that the Royal Irish Fusiliers, No. 10 Mountain Battery, and the Gloucestershire Regiment, were surrounded in the hills, and after losing heavily, had to capitulate. The casualties have not yet been ascertained.

A man of the Fusiliers, employed as hospital orderly, came in under a flag of truce with a letter from the survivors of the column, who asked for assistance to bury the dead.

White's Dispatch.

London, Oct. 31.—The following is the text of General White's dispatch to the war office:

"Ladysmith, Oct. 30, 1.35 p.m.—I have to report a disaster to the column sent by me to take a position on a hill to guard the left flank of the troops.

### New Advertisements on Page 8.

General White, in a subsequent dispatch says:

The following is a list of the officers taken prisoners to-day:

Staff-Major Adie.

Irish Fusiliers—Col. Carleton, Major Munn, Major Kincaid, Capt. Burrows,

Capt. Rice, Capt. Silver, Lieut. Heard,

Lieut. Southey, Lieut. Phillips, Lieut. McGregor, Lieut. Homes, Lieut. Kelly, Lieut. Dooner, Lieut. Kentish, Lieut. Kinahan, Lieut. Jendwina and Chaplain Matthews.

Of the above Captains Rice and Silver and Lieut. Dooner were wounded.

Gloucestershire Regiment—Major Humphrey, Major Capelgure, Major Wallace, Capt. Duncan, Capt. Conner, Lieut. Bryant, Lieut. Nisbet, Lieut. Ingman, Lieut. Davy, Lieut. Knox, Lieut. Temple, Lieut. Radice, Lieut. Brad, Lieut. Hill, Lieut. Short, Lieut. Smith, Lieut. Mackenzie, Lieut. Beasby, Lieut. Gray. Of the above Captains Duncan and Conner were wounded.

Royal Artillery—Major Bryant.

Over Two Thousand Prisoners.

New York, Oct. 31.—A cable from London says the war office confirms the disaster at Ladysmith yesterday. Two regiments, the Gloucesters and Royal Irish Fusiliers, and Battery 10 Mountain Artillery, were surrounded.

After terrible slaughter two thousand men and forty-two officers capitulated.

The loss, which was heavy, is unknown.

General White accepts the blame. The war office thinks he will be able to hold Ladysmith, despite the heavy losses, and can withstand a siege for thirty days.

White will probably be succeeded.

Mobilization of Reserves.

London, Oct. 30.—The commanding chief, Field Marshal Lord Wolseley, has issued an order for mobilization, by November 6th, of the reserves of the Suffolk, Essex and Derbyshire Regiments, who will be added to the South Africa forces.

Another Battle.

Capetown, Oct. 31, 12.20 p.m.—The South Africa News publishes the following dispatch:

"Ladysmith, Oct. 31.—A battle is proceeding at the foot of Umbanabane, a few miles from Ladysmith.

"Several shells have dropped into the town."

London Press Comments.

The news of the British reverse was received in Dublin with similar scenes of grief and dismay.

The disaster had an immediate effect on the Stock Exchange here, where consols fell  $\frac{1}{2}$  and South African securities fell heavily. Hand milled fell two points.

The afternoon papers made only brief editorial comments on the news from Ladysmith, but their headlines voiced the feeling of general dismay. The tone of the editorials can be summed up by the following of the St. James's Gazette:

"It is evident that the patriotism and fortitude of the nation are to be tested in real earnest by these operations in

Mountain Battery — Lieut. Wheeler, Lieut. Nigent, Lieut. Moore and Lieut. Webb.

Preparing to Shell Kimberley.

Capetown, Oct. 31.—It is reported from Barkley West that the Boers are constructing forts around Kimberley for the purpose of shelling the town.

Boer Casualties.

London, Oct. 31.—A special dispatch from Ladysmith says:

"The Boers suffered severely during the engagement, some persons estimating their loss at from 900 to 1,000 killed and wounded."

Reinforcements to be Sent.

London, Oct. 31.—The war office has sent the following dispatch to General Butler:

"Three extra battalions of foot and one mountain battery, with reserves, will leave England during the course of ten days to make good the casualties."

White May Retire.

London, Oct. 31.—Reports are current here that Gen. White may retire to Pietermaritzburg, while the railway is intact. There is much divergence of opinion in military circles as to the advisability of such a step.

Who is to Blame?

## THE BATTLE UNDECIDED

Particulars of Yesterday's Engagement Between the British and Boer Armies Near Ladysmith.

## TWO REGIMENTS ARE MISSING

After Several Hours' Fighting Our Troops Returned to Ladysmith—Naval Brigade Did Good Work—Artillery Duel.

London, Oct. 30.—A dispatch has been received at the war office regarding the fighting at Ladysmith. Gen. White's message, dated to-day, 6:30 p.m., was as follows:

"I employed all the troops here except the garrison before the works. I sent a mountain battery, the Irish Fusiliers and the Gloucesters to take up a position on the hills to clear my left flank."

"The force moved at 11 yesterday evening, and during the night firing the battery made a stampede with some of the guns, which, however, I hope to recover. The two battalions have not yet returned, but are expected this evening."

"I detailed two brigade divisions of artillery and five battalions of infantry, aided by cavalry, under Gen. French, to attack the position upon which the enemy yesterday mounted guns."

"We found this position evacuated, but our force was."

Attacked With Considerable Vigor by what I believe were Gen. Joubert's troops. They had many guns and showed in great numbers."

"Our troops were all in action, and we pushed the enemy back several miles, but did not succeed in reaching his laager."

"Our losses are estimated between 80 and 100, but those of the enemy must have been much greater, the fire of our guns appearing very effective."

"After being in action several hours I withdrew the troops, and they returned unscathed to the cantonment."

"The enemy are in great numbers, and their guns range further than our field guns. I now have several guns temporarily silenced, and will permanently dominate the enemy's best guns, with which he has been."

Bombarding the Town at a range of over 6,000 yards."

The advance was made at dawn with the object of shelling the Boers from the position where yesterday they had mounted a number of guns. On reaching the spot, however, it was found that they had evacuated the position. The British continued to advance, and the movement developed into a reconnaissance in force. The enemy were posted on a range of hills, having a frontage of about 10 miles.

The British force was disposed in the following order: On the right three regiments of cavalry, four batteries of the Royal Field Artillery, and five battalions of infantry. In the centre, three batteries of the Royal Field Artillery, two regiments of cavalry and four infantry battalions. And on the left, the Royal Irish Fusiliers, the Gloucester Regiment and the Tenth Mountain Battalion.

This force had been detailed to guard our left flank at a late hour last night.

Gen. White's Plan of Operations

was that as the movement developed the force constituting our centre, which was disposed under cover of a kopje about three miles from the town, should throw itself upon the enemy, while the left-flank was being held by the Fusiliers and the Gloucesters.

The plan was well devised, but failed in execution owing to the fact that the Boer position which formed our objective point was evacuated.

Our artillery quickly reduced the volume of the enemy's fire, but the attack delivered on our right flank was the principal one, and the column was compelled to change. The Boer attack had been silenced for a time, and our infantry advanced, covered by cavalry.

The enemy now began to develop

### "Pride Goeth Before a Fall."

Some proud people think they have strong constitutions, and ridicule the idea of disease. Such people neglect their health, let the blood rundown, and their stomach, kidneys and liver become deranged.

Don't be foolish about your health, and as they were in great force numerically, Gen. White gave orders for the infantry to be gradually withdrawn. The movement was carried out with great skill and deliberation, under cover of our guns, which made excellent practice.

The engagement lasted several hours and resulted on our side in casualties estimated at from 90 to 100. The Boer loss must have largely exceeded this total.

The attack was admirably delivered by our right, and the Boers were fairly driven out of their strongholds near Lombard Kop. It was not possible, however, to push the success much further, as beyond that point lay a long broken ridge, affording every kind of natural cover. Under this the enemy took the fullest advantage. Our shells failed to dislodge the Boers, and as our infantry moved in our rear, they came under a heavy rifle fire, the effect of which was soon apparent.

Gen. White, who was with the centre, seeing that the troops on the right were somewhat pressed, sent to their assistance the whole centre column with the expectation of the Devons' Regiment. The battle had then lasted four hours, during which the artillery fire on both sides had been almost incessant.

The Naval Brigade, which landed at Durban, had arrived on the scene toward the end of the fighting, and immediately brought their heavy guns into play. Their fire was magnificent. At the fourth shot the enemy's 40-pounders

had been nearly leveled. Another broke out on the other side and the next year three appeared. I took Hood's Sarsaparilla and it helped me. Since taking six bottles of the medicine I have not been troubled, and previous to this treatment one of the eruptions had discharged for seven years."

Mrs. FRANKLIN H. TEEB, Finsbury, N. S.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**

Never Disappoints

Hood's Sarsaparilla

# Principally Routine

The Weekly Session of the City Council Held Last Night.

V. & S. Railway Matters Reported Upon by the City Solicitor.

The most important meeting of the city council was held last evening, the worship the mayor presiding, and all the aldermen were present.

The minutes of the last previous meeting having been read and duly adopted on motion of Ald. Kinsman, the next order of business, communications, was taken up. The first letter came from F. Victor Austin, and suggested that as a fund is being raised for the relief of widows and orphans of those taking part in the South Africa campaign, it would be a happy idea for the city council to lend its patronage to a concert in the drill hall, the proceeds of which should be devoted to the fund mentioned, and the musical part of which should be under the direction of the writer, January or February next being suggested as suitable months for the holding of such a musical festival. Mr. Austin estimated the proceeds of the series of concerts at \$4,000.

Mr. T. R. Smith, in endorsing the suggestion, informed the council that he has known Mr. Austin for some years, and believed him to be especially capable for the direction of a concert of the kind suggested, and in conclusion asked the council to see to it that his property is not damaged on All Hallow Eve, as it was last year.

Ald. Hayward moved that the letters be referred to a special committee for report, believing the suggestion to be a good one.

Ald. Macgregor seconded the motion, and it carried, the committee to consist of Ald. Hayward, Macgregor and Brydon.

George De Wolf, as agent of the Johnson estate, filed an objection to the paving of Yates street, between Government and Broad streets, and the letter was referred to the city assessor.

Thomas Elliott objected to the obstructions now existing on Mason street, and on Ald. Beckwith's motion the letter went to the city engineer.

Mrs. Maria Grant and other members of the W. C. T. U. asked the council to appropriate \$250 towards the expenses of the annual convention in this city next year.

Referred to the finance committee for report, on motion of Ald. Stewart.

V. & S. Railway Matters.

From Messrs. Mason & Bradburn, city solicitors, came the following:

Gentlemen.—With reference to the motion of Ald. Macgregor as to the desirability of obtaining a legal mortgage over the assets and undertaking of the Victoria & Sidney Railway, and protect the corporation in respect of moneys payable under its guarantee, which has been referred to us, we have the honor to report that in our opinion the corporation will be more fully protected by the taking of such mortgage. We would therefore suggest that the city clerk be instructed to write to the provincial secretary, requesting the government to call upon the company to execute to the gilder of stamp and agriculture in pursuance of section 9 of the by-laws a legal mortgage of all the property of the company, as security for the repayment of all the moneys paid by the government and corporation respectively in respect of the guarantees and of the costs, charges and expenses they may be respectively put to, or to incur in connection therewith, and also requiring the company to furnish the corporation detailed and better and more particular accounts of the earnings and expenditure of the company. On payment into the master, we have received every assistance from Mr. W. S. Gore, the deputy provincial secretary of the treasury, and learn that accounts have been submitted to the provincial secretary by the company of the earnings and expenditure of the railway for the last few years. We have been permitted to inspect the accounts for the years 1897 and 1898, and have made copies of the same, which we now enclose. You will notice that the accounts give no details, "general and operating expenses" being stated as \$5,378.00 in 1897, and \$10,185.55 in 1898. No explanation is given of the large increase in these figures, which are the more remarkable as there is no corresponding increase in the earnings of the company, the receipts for 1898 being \$8,671.79, as against \$16,688.43 for 1897.

See 44, sub-section 6, of the British Columbia Railway Act, Revised Statutes 1897, c. 163, provides that after the opening of each session of the legislature an account shall be annually transmitted to the provincial secretary, containing a detailed and particular account attested upon oath of the president, or in his absence, of the vice-president, of the money received and expended.

The accounts furnished are not, in our opinion, such accounts as are contemplated by the act, and we think further particulars should be required of and furnished by the company. We find the books of the company were audited by Mr. Monteith on behalf of the government in 1896, and again in 1897, but there has been no subsequent audit.

MASON & BRADBURN  
City Solicitors.

The mayor suggested that as there was a good deal of business to be transacted it might be well to leave this letter over for another meeting, and Ald. Macgregor thought a little more probing into the matter would be good. He therefore moved that it be laid on the table.

Carr.

The city engineer reported in reference to H. M. Grisham's request to have Cook street improved from Fairfield road to Dalhousie road, that he had already recommended that the work be done on the northern portion. In regard to the southern portion he advised that the matter be left over until the question of the new way along the rifle range is decided. The report recommended, too, on F. W. Vincent's petition for an extension of the

surface drain on Michigan street to low water mark, that a box be constructed at a cost of \$135.

Received and adopted on motion of Ald. Hayward.

Mr. Benjamin Boggas, on behalf of a committee of Victoria West residents, informed the council that a public meeting would be held in Sampson's hall on Tuesday evening, and invited the mayor and aldermen to attend.

Ald. Beckwith moved that the invitation be accepted, but the mayor explained there was a public meeting in the city hall the same evening, and he would have to attend that.

Finally, on motion of Ald. Williams and Hayward, it was decided to inform the writer of the letter that Friday evening would be more convenient, and on that evening the mayor and council would endeavor to attend.

Tenders for the purchase of city debentures were received, and referred to the mayor and finance committee to deal with.

The finance committee recommended

Merritt's school for the education of deaf mutes. Adopted.

The same committee recommended for payment accounts amounting to \$5000.24, and this report was adopted, as was also another, recommending the payment of \$142.50 for the month's wages of Sergeant Walker and Constable Abel in lieu of notice.

The following letter was received from the mayor, and the motion suggested was moved by Ald. Humphrey and duly seconded and carried without dissent.

"In returning to you for reconsideration the report of the special committee on the Clover Point rifle range, and the resolution adopting the same, for the reason that the report is not sufficiently definite as to what the council will do in the matter of constructing the proposed new road, the cost of which will, I think, be larger than anticipated, as a rough estimate of the engineer places the cost of the work at about \$1,500, and it being necessary that the resolution should state whether the council agrees to make the new road entirely at its own expense, or whether only a portion of the cost will be contributed by the council, and if so, what portion, I would recommend that the resolution adopting the report be rescinded, and the following substituted therefor:

"That the report of the committee be adopted, the council undertaking to pay \$1,500 towards the construction of the new road, upon the condition that the land to the south of the proposed new road shall be open to the public at all times except when the range is in actual use for shooting purposes, and that the said land shall not be fenced in such manner as would prevent the public from having access to it, or that would obstruct or interfere with the view of the Straits from the proposed new road."

The park committee reported having been offered twelve benches at \$2 each by the Centennial Methodist church, and the donation of three Muscovite ducks by Mr. G. W. Ronald Stewart. The benches will be accepted if the purchasing agent reports favorably, and Mr. Stewart will be thanked for his donation.

Ald. Humphrey's motion instructing the city engineer to survey the western boundary of the cemetery property was carried.

A by-law providing for the appointment of Ald. Macgregor as to the desirability of obtaining a legal mortgage over the assets and undertaking of the Victoria & Sidney Railway, and protect the corporation in respect of moneys payable under its guarantee, which has been referred to us, we have the honor to report that in our opinion the corporation will be more fully protected by the taking of such mortgage. We would therefore suggest that the city clerk be instructed to write to the provincial secretary, requesting the government to call upon the company to execute to the gilder of stamp and agriculture in pursuance of section 9 of the by-laws a legal mortgage of all the property of the company, as security for the repayment of all the moneys paid by the government and corporation respectively in respect of the guarantees and of the costs, charges and expenses they may be respectively put to, or to incur in connection therewith, and also requiring the company to furnish the corporation detailed and better and more particular accounts of the earnings and expenditure of the company. On payment into the master, we have received every assistance from Mr. W. S. Gore, the deputy provincial secretary of the treasury, and learn that accounts have been submitted to the provincial secretary by the company of the earnings and expenditure of the railway for the last few years. We have been permitted to inspect the accounts for the years 1897 and 1898, and have made copies of the same, which we now enclose. You will notice that the accounts give no details, "general and operating expenses" being stated as \$5,378.00 in 1897, and \$10,185.55 in 1898. No explanation is given of the large increase in these figures, which are the more remarkable as there is no corresponding increase in the earnings of the company, the receipts for 1898 being \$8,671.79, as against \$16,688.43 for 1897.

See 44, sub-section 6, of the British Columbia Railway Act, Revised Statutes 1897, c. 163, provides that after the opening of each session of the legislature an account shall be annually transmitted to the provincial secretary, containing a detailed and particular account attested upon oath of the president, or in his absence, of the vice-president, of the money received and expended.

The electors by-law, giving those rates which are in arrear with taxes the privilege of voting at the forthcoming election, was reconsidered and finally carried.

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See 44, sub-section 6, of the British Columbia Railway Act, Revised Statutes 1897, c. 163, provides that after the opening of each session of the legislature an account shall be annually transmitted to the provincial secretary, containing a detailed and particular account attested upon oath of the president, or in his absence, of the vice-president, of the money received and expended.

The electors by-law, giving those rates which are in arrear with taxes the privilege of voting at the forthcoming election, was reconsidered and finally carried.

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**The New Vancouver**  
Coal Mining & Land Co.  
LIMITED.  
Supply from their Nanaimo, Southfield  
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**Steam Gas . . . Coal**  
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Run of the Mine,  
Washed Nuts and Screenings

SAMUEL M. ROBINSON, SUPERINTENDENT

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Published every day (except Sunday)  
by the

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VICTORIA BOOK AND STATIONERY COMPANY, 61 Government street

T. N. HIBBERN & COMPANY, 69 Government street

F. CAMPBELL, Tobacconist, 92 Government street

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### M. MARCHANT'S LETTER.

Mr. W. Marchant's letter in Saturday's Times criticized the conduct of three leading clergymen for having taken part in the public demonstration on the occasion of the departure of the Victoria contingent for South Africa. The letter, as we have already stated, was unnecessarily severe even from the standpoint of one who disapproved of the stand taken by the clergymen concerned; but from our point of view it was more than that, and in the light of subsequent events, it was, to put it mildly, most impolitic. As a matter of course, the Colonist attempts to fasten on Senator Templeman responsibility for the publication; it suits the purpose of our contemporary, for political and business reasons, to make all the capital it can out of the letter. There is no wish on our part to evade the responsibility that attaches to a newspaper for giving publicity to any article, whether the views therein contained are approved of or not; but we must respectfully decline to be held accountable for the opinions of our correspondents, which under the liberal rule that has always characterized the management of the Times very frequently are in direct antagonism to the views held by the paper.

The object of a public meeting is to make political capital rather than to denounce Mr. Marchant's act. To hold a public meeting, called by the mayor at the instigation of a few hot-heads, for the purpose of considering Mr. Marchant's letter, seems to us to be attaching greater importance to the affair than it deserves. It is unduly magnifying the offence. The excitement of the hour, the intense feeling of loyalty and devotion to the Empire evoked by the war in South Africa, is accountable no doubt for a display of local feeling which under other circumstances it would have been impossible to arouse. On every ground the incident—the letter and the meeting called—must be regretted. The splendid unanimity of our citizens in tendering to our soldiers' moral and financial encouragement on their departure from the city ought not to have been disturbed and endangered by such a course.

GENERAL WHITE'S MISFORTUNE

While the mishap which has overtaken two of the smartest regiments in the British army will cause the keenest regret, it need cause no alarm. Such things will happen to the finest troops under the ablest generals; but incidents of the kind, though annoying, have no effect upon the main current of the war. General White will have the hearty sympathy of the public in this untoward result of what was apparently a well-planned movement. He has shown himself the soldier and the man by hastening to take upon his own shoulders the whole responsibility and blame for the disaster—which may seal his career in the army by leading to his recall from the front, and supersession by another of the commander-in-chief's staff.

The sending out of columns unsupported in face of an enemy who has given repeated proofs in the present campaign of extraordinary activity and mobility, seems to have been responsible mainly for the minor mishaps which have befallen the British in Natal. According to the rules of war, especially modern war, infantry on reconnaissance must be supported by cavalry, and cavalry by infantry, but in many cases reported in the operations around Ladysmith this rule does not seem to have been adhered to. The dispatches this morning show that: reporting the falling back of various bodies of our men who were not in a position to carry the several movements in which they were employed to completion owing to lack of support from the other arms.

MR. POOLEY'S CASE.

It is a pity that almost every incident in connection with the departure of the Canadian contingent for South Africa should be given a political turn, and that unprincipled politicians should take advantage of every opportunity to strike their opponents. There is not, so far as we can learn, the slightest excuse for the insinuation in this morning's Colonist that "some person who has the ear of the minister of militia" had intervened to prevent Lieut. Pooley's offer of his services as a soldier being accepted by

the government. This is the first charge of political favoritism that we have seen made, and although the Colonist tries to guard itself by disclaiming the intention of placing any one in a false light, its insinuation is too direct to be ignored. Our contemporary seems determined to make political capital out of anything and everything, and in doing so it does not seem to care for consequences. There is a legitimate sort of political warfare, but these continual attempts to impugn the honor and integrity of public men, or in this case of those "who have the ear of the minister of militia," without any ground for so doing, are dishonorable and unpatriotic. As a matter of fact Mr. Templeman personally requested that Mr. Pooley's service be accepted.

### THE CAT UNBAGGED.

This morning our contemporary discussed legendarily upon the way news that had been received from the Colonist and the public, who may perhaps have done themselves the injustice not to perceive that distinctly precious leading article, may be interested to have the Colonist's confession as to how it gets up the news of the day, and exercises grandmotherly care that nothing shall reach the dear public that it considers the dear public ought not to have.

We always richly enjoy the Colonist when it is on the dainties of journalism; it is better than Dooley on asthrome; displaying to the naked eye a magnificent field for the improvement of its knowledge of the rudiments of the subject. But that aside, the Colonist blames the "Times" for bulletining in its front window a dispatch received from the Associated Press dated Berlin, announcing the alleged capture of General White's force at Ladysmith. Let our ever-amusing friend speak for itself:

"The Times displayed the bulletin, but the Colonist held it back and later gave out the report of the beginning of the day's fighting and the favorable prospect for our troops."

Now, we decline to take second place to the Colonist in our desire to see the victory and triumph of the British arms. We are quite as anxious to see the speedy termination of the war completely in favor of the British forces as the Colonist can be, but we think it is absurd for the Colonist to treat the public of Victoria as if that public were a collection of children or dotards, by deliberately "cooking" or suppressing the dispatches which come to it, so that nothing except what is pleasant and agreeable shall reach the public. Is this what the public want? To be treated as if it were not as capable of understanding and appreciating the news that comes over the wires as even the wised of the very wise men on the local morning paper's staff?

The Times does not "cook" its dispatches in this or any other way. It delivers them faithfully to the public just as it receives them. The public will no doubt appreciate at its true value the confession of the Colonist as to how it doctors and chops around the news it receives.

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make them more eager to wipe out the mark against them.

The news that the War Office has ordered another army corps to be held in readiness for duty at the Cape shows that the Imperial government fully realizes the importance of the enemy, and will use the same efforts to conquer him that it would in the case of a first-class power. The Seaforth Highlanders, on their way home from India for a well-earned rest after a long sojourn, have been intercepted at Alexandria and ordered to the Cape. That will be one regiment of the highest order of merit and seasoned from a severe training in the mountainous grounds of Northwest India, which will prove of the utmost service in meeting the Boers. Other corps bound for home from distant parts of the Empire have been stopped and hastily dispatched to the scenes of war. These troops are even better fitted to campaign in Natal than the battalions from the British dominions.

The work done by the naval brigade at the engagement is reported from Natal was most brilliant, and will serve to increase the admiration of the people for the gallant fellows who form "Britain's first line of defence." The rivalry between the two services, military and naval, has always led to splendid exhibitions of heroism in the field, and no doubt the present campaign will be signalized by deeds on the part of the soldiers and sailors that will arouse the highest admiration and enthusiasm in all parts of the Empire. Jack has opened his part of the business in extremely creditable style.

Spokane is about to expend some millions of dollars upon city improvements, principally street paving. That city is probably the most ambitious for its size in the west.

A dispatch from Halifax says that "among the privates in the Halifax contingent are one captain, four lieutenants and one second lieutenant. These officers have voluntarily resigned their commissions in order to take their place as privates, but in every case they will be given stripes."

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To-night is Hallow E'en, but it is a festival now entirely in the keeping of the small boy and his chums, whose prey is the unguarded gate.

IN THE MATTER OF MR. MARCHANT.

To the Editor: It is to be hoped that the good people of the city will attempt nothing rash in the case of Mr. Marchant who has, for once, so far forgotten himself as to offer insults to those for whom he, in cooler moments would, we doubt not, defend, if necessary, with all his manhood. The persons to whom the letter was addressed, we think, will not suffer long from the intended castigation of a self-appointed judge.

Mr. Marchant is a good citizen, a kind friend, a foeman not to be despised, and one who generally fights fair.

There can be no question that he has made a great blunder, in the letter which has brought upon him the wrath of those who feel the world keenly, but while Mr. Marchant, we think, has acted foolishly in this case, is, perhaps, going farther than the offendee demands to ask for his dismissal from the office held by him from the city and Dominion. When Mr. Marchant called upon to resign at this time, we could not but feel that such would appear as a matter of revenge for the attack of a single man who, in all other respects, has always shown himself a loyal and true citizen. Faithfully yours,

J. C. SPEER.

Victoria, Oct. 30, 1899.

### THE SUPPLY STORES.

**DEAVILLE, SONS & CO.**  
GROCERS  
AND  
PROVISION MERCHANTS

HILL-SIDE AVE. VICTORIA, B.C.

Our Ceylon Tea and Coffees are unsurpassed.  
Fresh Butter, Bacon, Ham, Eggs, etc.  
AT LOWEST PRICES.

Bonus Checks or Trading Stamps to  
Cash Customers.

to keep him comfortable the rest of his days he is to be newspaper man.

Even so popular a man as Lord Kelvin could not heat, in his own university, Lord Rosse's for the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University. Rosse's is, however, by远比 Kelvin popular, and the Prince of Wales, the most popular man in the British Islands.

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Victoria, Oct. 30, 1899.

THE BLACK SWAN.

The native swan of Australia is not the very beautiful white bird which adorns so many of the English waters, but the more ordinary looking black swan which is invariably an exhibit of our zoological gardens, and is noted more especially for its fierceness and strength. As far as appearances goes, the black swan is certainly not as attractive as its more ornamental cousin, neither would it lend so picturesque an addition to an English landscape; but when seen in its native state, sailing in large flocks peacefully, contentedly, and apparently with perfect unanimity and inclination on some sheltered lagoon, amid surroundings of rising country clothed with rich herbage and thick virgin forest, its presence and appearance is most impressive, and causes one to feel that the beauties of the scenery around would count for little without the living complement of feathered creatures so sedately and gracefully gliding along the water's surface.

It is a matter of comparatively little trouble to obtain views of these birds in their immense flocks, but the true difficulty is to get them within gunshot range; and in hunting the black swan it must be remembered that the sport is not, simply a pleasure and a pastime—the birds are sought after for a very practical purpose, and their acquisition is of considerable value. It seems hardly needful to refer to the down, but it may be mentioned that that obtained from the breast of these black swans is exceptionally beautiful and snowy white, the outer and inner feathers being extremely soft and downy, the down removed before the down itself is exposed. Although the covering is so wonderfully thick and spreading that it can be divided up into many yards' length of the finest and softest swansdown, Chambers's Journal.

FRANKLIN AND GEORGE III.

The British King's Attempt to Change the Laws of Nature.

"Franklin as a Scientist," is the September chapter of Mr. Paul L. Ford's "Century" studies of "The Many-Sided Franklin." It contains this anecdote:

A powder-magazine in Europe having been exploded by lightning, the British Board of Ordnance requested the Royal Society for preserving the arsenals at Purfleet against a danger. The Society appointed a committee of five, of which Franklin was one, to prepare a report, and they recommended Franklin's system. But from this one member, Benjamin Wilson, dissented so far as to advocate the use of blunt, and not pointed, ends to the rods. The latter were adopted, and Wilson, growing angry, published two pamphlets, so Franklin states, "reflecting on the Royal Society, the committee, and myself, with some asperity." To this Franklin made no reply, for he explained, "I have never entered into any controversy in defence of my philosophical opinions. I leave them to take their chance in the world, if they are right, truth and experience

will support them; if wrong, they ought to be refuted and rejected. Disputes are apt to sour one's temper, and disturb one's quiet. I have no private interest in the reception of my inventions by the world, having never made, nor proposed to make, the least profit by any of them."

His friend Ingenuous, however, took up the controversy, and was, so Franklin noted, "as much heated about this one point, as the Jansenists and Molinists were about the five."

There the matter would, no doubt, have ended had not a new antagonist entered the field. George III., having good cause to dislike Franklin's political opinions, sought to discredit his scientific ones by ordering the substitution of blunt for pointed ends on Kew Castle. Such was his desire to prove Franklin in error that he asked Sir John Pringle to give an opinion in favor of the change, only to receive the reply that "the laws of Nature were not changeable at royal pleasure."

It was then intimated to him by the King's authority that a President of the Royal Society entertaining such an opinion ought to resign, and he resigned accordingly, at the same time being deprived of his position as physician to the Queen, with all favor in court circles, so that he was forced to leave London and live in extreme poverty. Franklin, unwilling of the injury it had brought his friend, asserted that the king's action was "a matter of small importance to me," adding: "If I had a wish about it, it would be that he had rejected them altogether as ineffectual. For it is only safe from the thunder of Heaven that he dared to use his own thunder in destroying his innocent subjects."

However the court might side with the king, the wits did otherwise, and one of them produced an epigram well worth quoting:

While you, great George, for safety hunt,  
The sharp conductors change for blunt.



## SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION.

An Epitome of Latest Scientific Facts and Theories.

The great "ocean ferry" gives a striking illustration of mechanical progress in sixty years. Speed, says Sir William White, has been increased from 8½ to 22½ knots, the time on the voyage has been reduced to about 38 per cent. of that in 1840. Ships have been more than trebled in length, about doubled in breadth, and increased tenfold in displacement. The passenger list has been increased from about 100 to 2,000 on a single steamer. The engine power has been made 40 times as great. The ratio of horse power to weight driven has increased fourfold; the rate of coal consumption per horse power per hour has increased from 1.5 to 2.5 tons across the Atlantic at 8½ knots, about 550 tons of coal were burnt in 1840, and about 3,000 tons are burnt. Each ton of propelling apparatus, with a steam pressure of only 12 pounds, then gave only two horse power for continuous working; each ton now produces from 6 to 7 horse power.

The curious fact has been noticed that the nitrifying bacterium, which renders such service in purifying sewage and other matter, is the greatest destroyer of the works of the water engineer. The gradual crumbling and turning to mud of cement mortar, an effect formerly attributed to the carbonic acid and other mineral substances of the water, proves to be the work of the nitrifying organism, and is a difficulty not yet easy to overcome. In this case we have helpful bacteria that also do great harm.

The trees on one side of an avenue in Brussels have dropped the singular habit of shedding their leaves in August and budding and even blossoming again in October. On the other side the trees retain their foliage until late in autumn. Botanists are inclined to see in this an effect of current leakage from the electric railway.

The production of artificial sponges by the process of Dr. Gustav Pum of Graz, depends entirely on the action of some chloride solution on pure cellulose. These products swell up with water, but turn horny and hard after drying, and to obtain the property of absorbing water readily, treatment with some salt as sodium chloride is included, and the plastic mass is made porous by compression in a press mould lined with perforating pins. The excess of salt is afterwards removed by washing a day or two in alcohol and water. These artificial sponges not only serve all the ordinary purposes, but are especially recommended for sanitary and industrial filtering, filtering life preservers, making anchor buoys, and in surgery for absorbing secretions.

The paraffining of floors in schools and hospitals is a recent advance in French sanitation. The cracks and joints are first plashed with a mixture of 540 parts of Spanish-white, 150 of steenna, 110 of rubber, and 20 of calcareous earth, and the paraffin is then applied either in solution in chloroform or melted. The latter is preferred, as the hot liquid penetrates the wood to the depth of a sixth of an inch. The parity requires two days for hardening before application of the paraffin, and when the latter has solidified, the superfluous material is scraped off, leaving a smooth, glossy surface. This resists acids and alkalies, while preventing the lodgment of infestation germs.

A light-weight alloy that seems to be in favor in France for cars, automobiles and other products is partinum; a mixture of aluminum and tungsten in varying proportions. Cast, partinum has a specific gravity of about 2.80, which is increased to 3.1 by rolling. While much cheaper than aluminum, the alloy is claimed to be much stronger, and it is but little heavier. In works at Puteaux it has been used for very speedy motor cars, the bodies being entirely constructed of the alloy, and for various purposes on steam vehicles.

For coating aluminum with other metals, Messrs. Lanclands and Leblanc, French electroplaters, use the following electrolytic solution: For silver—20 grms. of nitro of silver, 40 of cyanide of potassium, 40 of phosphate of soda, 1,000 of water; 40 grms of cyanide of gold, 40 of cyanide of potassium, 40 of phosphate of soda, 2,000 of water; copper—300 grms. cyanide of copper, 400 of cyanide of potassium, 450 of phosphate of soda, 5,000 of water; nickel—70 grms. of phosphate of soda, 70 of chalcocite of nickel, 1,000 of water. The anodes are of the same metal as that in solution, and the bath is kept at 140 Fahr.

Electrolytic hydrogen is a regular product of a German accumulator factory. The apparatus, devised by Herr Schon, consists of a lead cylinder-anode containing that dilute solution, and cathodes of four perforated lead tubes in the middle. The hydrogen escapes through glass tubes in the upper part of the cathode tubes. The gas is pure and odorless. The rate of the hydrogen and oxygen is stated to be less than half that of the gases by chemical methods.

**MEN OF ALL AGES**  
suffering from the effects of early folly quickly restored to robust health, manhood and vigour. Lost Manhood, Premature Decay, Weak Memory, Errors of Youth, Varicose Veins, for ever cured.

## \$1 BOX OF MEDICINE FREE.

OLD DR. GORDON'S REMEDY FOR MINTS in a foil-wrapped box. An old man of 65 fed 20 years younger. Sent sealed, on the receipt of 12 cents to repay postage, full regular one dollar box, with various boxes of 12 cents each. No duty, no inspection by Customs House, reliable Canadian Company. Write at once. If we could not help you we would not offer this special offer.

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If you wish to enjoy a cup of really delicious tea try Blue Ribbon Ceylon.

## BRITISH CABINET MINISTERS.

How They Guard the Secrets of Their Business Meetings.

The meetings of the cabinet are attracting more attention at present than they have done at any time since the tempestuous Gladstone days.

Every time the cabinet assembles, Downing street and Whitehall are thronged with ardent politicians, anxious to greet the ministers with encouraging cheer when they arrive, and to send them off with shouts of congratulation when they depart.

The devotion of the people who stand for hours on the kerbstone is the more significant, inasmuch as not one of them can possibly learn anything new about the situation until he reads it in his newspaper. The cabinet does not proclaim its decision from the house-tops. It is, in fact, the closest corporation in the wide world.

Its deliberations are secret, no record is kept of its resolutions, and they are never reported to anybody. No secretary is present at the meetings. No body may enter the room except a member of the cabinet. The junior minister receives important messages at the door, and proceedings are suspended.

Until the Door is Closed

again. It is even considered a breach of ministerial confidence to keep a private record of what has passed in the cabinet; lest the notes should pass into unauthorized hands.

There are people who try to infer cabinet decisions from the man and expression of the ministers as they leave. They argue peace from Balfour's smile, or war from Chamberlain's frown. They might as well examine the doortop or interrogate the porter. Ministers are like the rest of human kind. They don't talk business in the midst of a crowd. Probably they don't even think it. Mr. Balfour strolls across from Downing street, with his hands in his pockets, looking as if the problem is one to be faced at 2:00 and not at 12:20. When he comes away, still with his hands in his pockets, he has apparently forgotten all about it.

None can much be gathered from Mr. Chamberlain. Now that he has a corridor from the colonial office to the cabinet room he is not often seen by the crowd. As to Lord Salisbury, he would be a bold man who would infer anything from the Cossit expression.

There is still a chance for the ingenious person who wants to infer the cabinet's decision from signs and portents. It is remote, and

Would Require a Sherlock Holmes.

Here it is. "According to modern usage," says the encyclopaedia, "only one kind of public document is signed by all the members of the cabinet as a general reprisal, which constitutes a declaration of war. Such an order was issued against Russia in 1854, and was signed by all the members of Lord Aberdeen's cabinet."

All that Sherlock Holmes has to do, therefore, is to lie in wait, and carefully examine the right hands of all the ministers as they leave the foreign office. If there are traces that the ministers have been using pens within the last hour or so—why, there you are; and let the Boers look out.

When the cardinals were in conclave, the Roman populace used to stand outside the building and watch the chimney, to learn whether a Pope had been elected by the smoke from the burning of the ballot-papers. That was an elementary species of reasoning by deduction, and the man who first practised it may or may not have been made chief of the detective force of Rome. The man who deduces war from Mr. Balfour's fingers ought to be quite

Supe of a Place at Scotland Yard.

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When the cabinet last met somebody asked when the Prince of Wales was coming. The crowd laughed. Yet there was a time when Royal personages went to the cabinet. King William and Queen Anne always presided at weekly cabinet councils; but the Hanoverian princes, having very little English, generally stayed away, and since the time of George II, no monarch has attended the cabinet meetings, and probably none ever will again. London Daily Mail.

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## Provincial News.

## REVELSTOKE.

The Roman Catholic church is to be moved to the corner lot on Third street and McKenzie avenue.

## NELSON.

The masonry work on the land registry office is expected to be finished in about a week's time.

The wood family that came to Nelson with the miners have all gone. Some have disappeared with the coming of the past few fine days. The fuel dealers have disappeared with the demand, and are laying in large supplies for future emergencies.

## NEW DENVER.

Imports of freight to this town have been particularly heavy of late, with a large list yet to arrive.

Last week's receipts at the record office totalled up over \$800—a striking testimony to the fact that there is still life left in the camp.

An arrival from the lower lake camp states that there was not an idle man anywhere, with openings occurring frequently for additional hands.

## CASCADE CITY.

As fast as men and money can do it, the great water power available at Cascade is being harnessed for mining, smelting and industrial purposes. Within the last few weeks great progress has been made on the dam at the head of the gorge, which, when completed, will be 350 feet long and 35 high at the highest point. Foreman Simmons has been pushing things there of late, and the structure is now assuming a more imposing shape. It is now twenty feet higher than when work was resumed on it after the high water season.

## VANCOUVER.

On Sunday night J. Wellwood upset a lamp in the City Hotel and was seriously burned. He left the light burning and upset it during the night, the burning oil running over his face and hands.

Mrs. Breeze, wife of J. D. Breeze, manager of the Confederation Life Insurance Company, died yesterday morning. She was 55 years of age. Mrs. Breeze was a native of Ontario.

L. G. Henderson was on Sunday knocked down by a street car. Fortunately he fell clear of the car. He sustained severe but no dangerous injuries.

A gentleman named Brant of Bute, Mont., who is a guest at the Commercial Hotel, died with a serious and painful accident on Saturday night. It appears that while he had his tongue between his teeth he slipped in a step and the jar caused him to bite his finger organ nearly in two. The injury is causing him intense pain and the wound is one that is very difficult of treatment.

## NEW WESTMINSTER.

While the chain gang were grading the side of Clarkson street, preparatory to laying a new sidewalk opposite the court house, they unearthed two skeletons, human remains, which had been buried in graves not too deep. From the appearance of the skeletons, it was surmised they had lain in the ground many years; one probably some years longer than the other.

On examining the remains more closely it was evident that the skulls in each case had been sawn asunder, and, as this is usually done at the post mortem, it is presumed that the remains were those of a white man of good stature, and an Indian of somewhat smaller make. How they came to be buried just there is explained by the fact that Court House square was the site of the former jail, and Guard-Joe Burr remembers one such burial there, about the time he entered the service, twenty-seven years ago.

When the matter had been thoroughly discussed the bones were gathered up again, and reinterred, and the work of the sidewalk building resumed, just as though nothing had occurred.

## KAMLOOPS.

Sergt. Astor, of Qu'Appelle, arrived in Kamloops on Friday in search of Art. Quigley, who is charged with the murder about a year ago of Hazel at Lacombe, Alberta. Mrs. Hazel, the wife of the murdered man and sister of Quigley, was also arrested recently, on the same charge. She has admitted the crime and since her arrest has shown where the body was concealed. It is alleged that on the day of the murder Hazel, with his wife and Quigley, took a buggy and drove into the country. When in an isolated spot Mrs. Hazel and Quigley twisted the reins around Hazel's neck and strangled him. They then threw the body out of the buggy and smashed in the skull with a hammer which they had brought with them. The deed accomplished they hid the body amongst some bushes and after dark they returned to the spot, dug a hole and there buried the murdered man. Quigley left the country and this and other matters led

to his being suspected of the crime. His letters to Mrs. Hazel have been intercepted and the police were thus given a clue as to his whereabouts. Sergt. Astor on Saturday morning drove out to Fish Lake road 15 miles from Kamloops, and assisted by Special Constable Spalding arrested Quigley, who gave his name as John Hayes.

## ROSSLAND.

The members of the Rossland Club celebrated the opening of their handsome new club house on south Lincoln street, by giving a ball to their numerous friends on Friday evening.

On Friday Police Magistrate Boultbee gave his decision in the case preferred against William Mitchell, the ex-city printer, by J. McLean, Mr. Macdonald for the defence, and Mr. H. MacNeill for the prosecution, as well as the coroner's inquest. The decision was announced. The magistrate refused to commit the accused for trial and discharged him, thus ending the matter.

At the last meeting of the police commissioners it was decided to ask for the resignation from the force of Sergt. McGowan, in pursuance of the request of Chief Ingram. It is stated that the sergeant will refuse to resign as requested, and that he will force the commissioners to discharge him.

Among the incidents in the home of W. G. Oliver on Friday were two unsuccessful attempts at suicide and a gun play, which led to a physician leaving the house rather hurriedly. The principal actors were Mr. W. G. Oliver and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver were married in June and the trouble which culminated in Friday's incidents grew, it is said, out of a suspicion on the part of Mrs. Oliver, that her husband had not been true. Late on Thursday night or early on Friday morning Mr. Oliver took a dose of strichine. It seems that he administered an over-dose and asserts that he vomited it up. Early in the morning Dr. Duncan Campbell was summoned to treat him. When the physician entered the room Oliver drew a pistol and pointed it at him, saying: "Get out of here, and go quickly." The physician saw that the man with the gun had the drop on him and left the place as quickly as he could.

The words war between the couple continued until 8 o'clock in the evening when Mrs. Oliver concluded that life had no further charms for her and in the presence of her husband she took a teaspoonful of camphor acid. A call was sent to Dr. W. L. Conthard and he was on the scene in 20 minutes after the poison had been taken. The unfortunate woman was in a state of collapse and in a short time would have been dead. A stomach pump was quickly used and the poison removed from the stomach. Dr. Conthard was called in by Dr. Conthard to assist, as the case was a desperate one. The two physicians did everything possible to relieve the patient until 12:30 on Saturday morning and by that time she was out of immediate danger.

The Victor block, as the handsome and commodious new headquarters of the Canadian Army in Rossland is called, was formally dedicated on Saturday. The new building on the corner of West 1st Ross and Spokane street, is four stories high, and contains 17 rooms in all, including officers' quarters, Sunday school room and the main hall.

It is now said that the Canadian Pacific will not extend its line from Greenwood to Midway for the present owing to the lack of steel rails. It is said that instead the rails that are on hand will be used to construct the spur from the main line to the Wellington camp.

At a meeting held in the Pacific building on Saturday evening, an organization was formed which will be known as the Knights of Pythias and Fraternal Order of Eagles Association, limited. This body will own and have charge of the Pacific building, recently purchased. The plans for altering the building will be submitted on Tuesday next, and work will be commenced immediately. The changes contemplated are the addition of another story and the refitting up of the old Pacific music hall as a family theatre.

THE B. C. VOLUNTEERS.

Winnipeggers Do Honor to the Soldier Boys From the Pacific Province.

The British Columbia contingent of the Canadian regiment for the Transvaal passed through the city yesterday en route for the point of mobilization at Quebec, and were given a rousing send off by the two or three thousand Winnipeggers who assembled at the C. P. R. depot for that purpose.

The express was late in arriving and it was not until nearly 4:30 that it dropped in and the volunteers, debrained, looking none the worse for their long rail-way trip. They formed up on the platform and marched through a cheering crowd to where special electric cars awaited to convey them to the barracks.

The bushwacker, the mayor and the members of the city council, with Capt. Williams, D. O. C. Capt. Pierce, R. C. D., and the officers of the 90th Rifles, met them at the train and accompanied them to Port Osborne. On their arrival at that point the men became the guests of the hospitable Dragoons, and were at once made the masters of the place. A light luncheon had been prepared, and after this and a good supply of other refreshments had been discussed the visitors entertained the Dragoons and their friends with a short open air concert, which was much enjoyed. Capt. Williams then called upon the major to welcome the boys from the Pacific province, which his worship did in his usual cheery way, and taking a long turn with the visitors, said: "I have a great many things to tell you about the Queen's Guard, and the Dragoons, the 90th Rifles, and the officers of the 90th Rifles, met them at the train and accompanied them to Port Osborne. 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## A BRITISH DISASTER.

(Continued on page 8.)

Natal. General White had a difficult task set him, and we must take the disaster with the dogged coolness which Britons know how to display. We shall await the final result without apprehension.

The *Globe* calls upon the British Empire to receive this "bitter and unpatriotic" news with the same spirit of indifference which seizes upon its invincible enemies.

Bullet Welcomed at Capetown.

One announcement to-day was received by the British with unfeigned satisfaction, namely, the arrival of General Buller at Capetown. But it is pointed out that Buller cannot end the war without an army corps, and some of the troops which are to compose it have not even left England for South Africa.

Dispatches from Capetown show that Buller's reception there was most enthusiastic. He was welcomed by General Sir Frederick Forester-Walker, after which both entered a carriage and drove to the government house, escorted by mounted police and mounted volunteers. They were wildly cheered by throngs of people along the route. There were cries of "Avenge Majuba!" and "Hurrah for the general." Buller's face was impassive as he returned military salutes for the cheers.

## THE NEWS IN LONDON.

War Office Besieged With Inquiries—Second Army Corps Ordered to be in Readiness.

London, Oct. 31.—It is learned by the Associated Press that the war office has ordered a second army corps to be in readiness to be called out.

Military officials have not decided whether the consummation of the plan will be necessary, but they are determined to have everything in readiness for a demonstration in Europe of Great Britain's capabilities, or for sending even a larger force to the scene of action.

Until the receipt of the news of the Ladysmith disaster, the latter course was considered out of the question, but now there is no knowing what steps will be decided upon.

Particulars Not Yet Published.

While minor reverses were not wholly unexpected, no Englishman ever dreamed that anything like the staggering blow that Gen. Joubert delivered to Gen. White's forces yesterday threatened the British army in South Africa, and apparently the full extent of the disaster is not yet acknowledged.

Enquiry at the war office seems to indicate that the military dispatches contain other particulars, which it is deemed inexpedient to publish immediately, but the serious nature of which is not disguised.

The story as already known, however, is sufficiently bad.

The loss in effective men must be appalling to a general who is practically surrounded. Two of the finest British regiments and a mule battery deducted from the Ladysmith garrison weaken it about a fifth of its total strength, and alters the whole situation very materially in favor of the Boers, who once again have shown themselves stern fighters and military strategists of superior order.

The disaster cost the British from 1,500 to 3,000 men, and six 7-pounder screw guns, and as the Boer artillery is already stronger than imagined, the capture of these guns will be a great help to the Boers.

Its Effect on the Boers.

Apart from the immediate loss in effectiveness which will seriously cripple Gen. White's operations, the British defeat must have a depressing effect on the remainder of the Ladysmith forces, while it may be expected to have much weight with Boers who are wavering as to which side to support, and it will immensely raise the morale of the Boer forces and bring crowds of recruits to their standard.

White Accepts Responsibility.

Further news must be awaited before it is attempted to attach blame where it belongs. Gen. White manfully accepts all the discredit attaching to the disaster, which apparently was at least partially due to the stampeding of the mules with the guns.

From the first it will appear that forty-two officers were made prisoners, besides a newspaper correspondent, Mr. J. Hyde.

Scenes in the Street.

"Awful British disaster," yelled newsboys to-day, and all London stayed its course and read the extras containing

official acknowledgement of a British reverse.

The announcement appeared at the hour when shoppers crowded Regent and Oxford streets and Piccadilly. Women stopped their carriages in the streets and haled the boys. Out of fashionable stores women ran for papers. They stood stock-still in crowded streets, scanning the pages of the extras.

Having read of the reverse, such as does not exist in memory of living British subjects, the men set their teeth and walked on with hardened faces, while some women cried.

Then there was a rush to the news offices.

The building in a total loss. The fire was due to an overheated furnace. The hotel had no fire-escapes.

Wilson was father of one of the members of the Canadian Transvaal contingent.

INCREASE OF REVENUE.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Oct. 31.—The customs revenue of the Dominion continues to increase. The returns for the month of October, which ends to-day, shows an increase of nearly half a million dollars over October of last year. The figures are \$2,490,010, as against \$1,908,271 for October, 1898. This makes an increase of nearly one million dollars for the fiscal year so far.

## FATAL FIRE IN MONTREAL.

Webster House Gutted To the Ground—Three Persons Burned to Death and Several Seriously Injured.

(Associated Press.)

Montreal, Oct. 31.—A fatal fire occurred in the Webster House, near the Grand-Trunk station, this morning.

The dead are John Bechow, aged 39, George W. Smith, 35, and Sheriff George Jeffrey, 55, Montreal.

Fatally injured: James J. O'Neal, Montreal.

Montreal, Oct. 31.—A fatal fire has broken out in the Webster House, 120, England, and Maud Hogan, of this city, and slightly injured, Beside Holling.

The building is a total loss. The fire was due to an overheated furnace. The hotel had no fire-escapes.

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